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SHAKING UP THE C.I.A.

By Tad Szulc

Jimmy Carter was furious. He sat in the Oval Office on this chill November day, staring at the note paper before him. Riots were sweeping Iran. The Shah had just been forced to impose a military government on his nation. And the President of the United States hadn't even known a revolution was coming — had, in fact, been assured all along by the American intelligence community that there was no such danger. Mr. Carter lifted his pen and wrote: "I am not satisfied with the quality of political intelligence." The notes were addressed to "Cy," "Stan" and "Zbig" — Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance, Director of Central Intelligence Stansfield Turner and National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

Those handwritten messages of last Nov. 11 were not the President's first expression of concern over the state of American intelligence, but they were by all odds his strongest. They removed any doubts of White House determination to force change upon the intelligence apparatus. It had failed him in a most astonishing manner.

A nation Jimmy Carter considered America's linchpin of stability in the Middle East, a nation in which the United States had essential strategic and economic stakes, was in the midst of a profound crisis. By February, Mr. Carter would see Shah Mohammed Riza Pahlevi's government replaced by a radical Islamic re-

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